

J[♥] Shrewsbury School Journal

Serving a community of continuous learners

Summer Edition 2014 • Vol XVIII No. 3

Superintendent's Corner

Thank you!

DR. JOSEPH M. SAWYER
SUPERINTENDENT

June 3rd's vote signaled the beginning of a new era for our town, because the Shrewsbury community said a resounding "Yes" to investing more money in town government order to ensure that we have the resources needed to continue our tradition of excellence.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you who voted to support the override and those of you who did such excellent work to promote its passage.

...our students now have a brighter future and our outstanding educators can move forward with their work with the knowledge that they have the strong support of the community...

I cannot overemphasize how critical a "Yes" vote was for the quality of our school district. Thanks to you, our students now have a brighter future and our outstanding educators can move forward with their

CONTINUED, see page 2

inside • pages 2, 3 & 4

A great season for Speech and Debate, the effects of class size, the Unified Track and Field Team and an engineering class project

inside • pages 5, 6 & 7

Recognition for retirees, back-to-school reminders, collaborative student art and reports of success from the Road Scholars 5K Race & "Celebration in the Garden" committee.



Pictured above is Nic Gerard, Speech & Debate Team Captain and National Champion in Congressional Debate. See story on page 3.

"Nobody who ever gave his best regretted it."

~ George Halas ~



Enthusiastic athletes are all-around winners

Pictured above is Zaki Allam, a joyful and dedicated member of the newly formed Unified Track and Field team at Shrewsbury High School, competing at a meet in the 100 meter dash this past spring. Please see related story on page 3.

Value for our community

DR. B. DALE MAGEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

This has been an incredible year for the Shrewsbury School Department! A decade of budgets that have not quite met the needs of students and teachers led, year after year, to various cuts in service that were necessary to spend within our means. Initially, cuts were made that we felt would have the least impact on students and their ability to succeed. Books were not purchased, computers were not updated, and foreign language was eliminated from elementary schools. Later, cuts were made in electives, waiting lists were needed for Advanced Placement courses, and finally raising class sizes could not be avoided. This year the budget was revised and revised and revised

some more to finally get it to a place where it could be balanced. This has taken, year after year, a level of creativity and dedication to our students that may be hard for those not connected to the everyday challenges of the school

Old and young, Democrat and Republican all came together with the shared commitment to make Shrewsbury an even better town...

system to appreciate.

Although we have, as a committee, tried our best to illustrate to the community the need for more money for schooling year after year, this year the crisis had clearly come to a head. A growing chorus of students, parents, and

CONTINUED, see page 4

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Superintendent’s Corner
CONTINUED from page 1

work with the knowledge that they have the strong support of the community, which is a huge morale boost given the difficult situation we’ve faced over the past few years.

In addition, other Town departments will also benefit from more resources. I feel so fortunate to work in a town that is so well run, and I am grateful for the support the School Department receives from the other Town departments, and that I receive from the other Department Heads.

We are indebted to many leaders in the community who made a successful vote possible. While there isn’t space to name all who made significant contributions, I do want to recognize the following groups and individuals:

- our School Committee (Chair, Dr. B. Dale Magee; Vice Chair, Jason Palitsch; Secretary, Erin Canzano; Sandy Fryc; and John Samia) for their tireless advocacy for Shrewsbury’s students and educators and for their constant support of my work as superintendent;
- our Board of Selectmen (Chair, Jim Kane; Vice Chair, Moira Miller; Clerk, John Lebeaux; Moe DePalo; and Henry Fitzgerald), for placing the override question before the voters and advocating for it as the most responsible way forward in order to meet the needs of our community;
- our Finance Committee (Chair, John Masiello; Vice Chair, Bretta Karp; Gene Buddenhagen; John Campbell; John Cygielnik; Donna O’Connor; Patrick Pitney; Chris Rutigliano; and Judy Vedder), for their careful oversight of the Town’s finances and advocacy for additional resources through the override;
- our Town Manager, Dan Morgado, for his articulation and support of the need for more resources and his

CON-

Does money make a difference?

BETH BOULAY
SHREWSBURY RESIDENT, PARENT
AND SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCHER

Does the amount of funding schools receive make a difference? There are some who believe that spending more money on education is futile, because the districts that spend the most money on education are not necessarily the ones that get the best outcomes and highest test scores for students. They believe that there is little relationship between overall spending and student achievement and believe that investing more money in schools won’t make a difference. However, the research evidence is clear:

It’s not how much you spend; it’s what you spend it on!

After more than 30 years of research, experts agree that school districts that spend money on proven approaches to providing high quality education get effective results. The large body of evidence on the relationship between spending and student achievement was summarized in a very readable report authored by Bruce Baker, a professor at Rutgers University, in 2012 (http://www.shankerinstitute.org/images/doesmoneymatter_final.pdf). This leads to an obvious question: What are the approaches that research shows lead to high quality education and high student achievement? Education researchers agree that smaller class sizes is a proven approach to high student achievement. The strongest research supporting this conclusion was con-

ducted using the same type of research design used in medical research, i.e., the “gold standard” randomized trial. This study, known as Project STAR, found that students in classes that are not too large, such as those recommended by the Shrewsbury School Committee, experienced significant educational benefits over their peers taught in larger classes (https://www.princeton.edu/futureofchildren/publications/docs/05_02_08.pdf). The investment in an adequate number of teachers to have reasonable class sizes

After more than 30 years of research, experts agree that school districts that spend money on proven approaches to providing high quality education get effective results.

costs money, of course, but the research evidence shows that you will receive a measurable, immediate return on your investment. And the research indicates that smaller class sizes benefit all students, regardless of grade level, prior academic performance, gender, ethnic group, or socio-economic status.

This evidence supports what students, teachers, and administrators were telling us during the class size crisis of the past few years: overly large class sizes in Shrewsbury schools were negatively affecting our students and undermining the work of our

teachers. Fortunately, the funding from the successful override will address the problems that our schools were experiencing with physical overcrowding, reduced capacity for teachers to spend time with students, reduced morale, increased behavioral problems, and more.

For many years, Shrewsbury schools have achieved excellent results despite spending much less than the vast majority of other districts in the state because they have been spending funds on the right things, including reasonable class sizes. The research also indicates that the longer students experience class sizes that are too high, the more the negative effect on their education will be compounded. Class size matters in the quality of education our town’s students receive, and the School Committee has been wise to make this its number one priority. The research shows that the town’s additional investment in teachers to reduce class size will be money well spent.

Beth Boulay is a Shrewsbury resident and a mother of a preschooler, a kindergartner and 3rd grader at Paton School next year. She holds a doctorate in education from Harvard University, and works as a researcher leading rigorous studies that investigate which approaches to improving educational outcomes for students are effective. Dr. Boulay can be reached at: bboulay22@gmail.com.

A version of this article was previously posted on Patch.com

Thinking outside the cardboard box

HILARY WONG
GRADE 12 STUDENT
SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

“To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk,” advised Thomas Edison in the nineteenth century. Today, over one hundred years later, Shrewsbury High School takes those words to heart and prides itself in cultivating an extraordinary sense of inventiveness within the community. In fact, the Shrewsbury High School’s engineering curriculum pro-


vides the perfect opportunities to think beyond the cardboard box.

Stacks of cardboard. Scissors. Latex paint. Silicone sealant. More cardboard. What could possibly be made from these materials? In early April, Mr. Paul Wood, a dedicated engineering teacher, assigned his Introduction to Engineering Design classes a hands-on project to design and construct canoes. Students could only use cardboard for their boats’ structures. The final stage of this project in-

involved a class competition to determine which group’s boat could safely transport a person over water.

For weeks, students worked collaborately, bouncing ideas, researching facts, sketching detailed diagrams, making and testing prototypes, and finally, building the actual canoe. The biggest challenge? The cardboard constraint. As 9th grader Cara Freeman recalls, “[cardboard] definitely isn’t the conventional material used in boats...it doesn’t hold up

CONTINUED, see page 4



The non-profit Shrewsbury School Journal is published three times a year and reaches every household in the diverse and growing town of Shrewsbury. It is published by the central office of the Shrewsbury Public Schools with the help and expertise of many individuals. The mission of the Shrewsbury School Journal is to provide an accurate source of information about our school system and the town in which we live. We hope to foster a community of continuous learners.

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer
Superintendent

Mary Beth Banios
Assistant Superintendent

Kimberlee Cantin
Project Coordinator/Designer

Hard work reaps rewards

NITHYA PATHALAM
2014-15 TEAM CAPTAIN
SHS SPEECH & DEBATE

The Shrewsbury High School Speech and Debate Team was comprised of 80 members for its 2013 – 2014 season. The team's season runs September through State Championship tournaments in April and nationals in May and June. The ongoing dedication and hard work of these students reaped many rewards for the team this year.

The team competed at 15 locally held tournaments this year placing in the top 5 at each tournament. Two tournaments were hosted at SHS this year: the local NCFL national qualifier and the 21st Annual Mardi Gras Tournament which attracted more students than ever before - over 700 entries from over 50 schools making it the largest local tournament in Massachusetts this year.

Members of the team also competed at travel tournaments held at Yale University, St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Harvard University, and George Mason University in Virginia. In addition, Kathy Bi, Miriam George and Nic Gerard, through past successes, earned the right to compete at the prestigious "Tournament of Champions" at the University of Kentucky.

As the culmination of the team's exciting local competition year, the team won 4th place at the State Debate Championship Tournament and 2nd place at the State Speech Championship

Tournament with Nic Gerard (this year's team President) being the State Champion in Congressional Debate, and Carolina Lima (this year's Speech Captain) being the State Champion in Dramatic Interpretation. Aditi Singh (next season's Speech Captain) was the State Champion in Prose Reading.

After so much local success, the team enthusiastically continued

cellence in Forensics (top 5 speech and debate team in the country). Eight individual awards were also captured with freshman Ben Harris winning Third Place (out of 223 contestants) in Oratorical Declamation and, Nic Gerard becoming the NCFL National Champion in Congressional Debate.

As the year drew to a close, eight team members competed at the



Pictured above are some of the members of the Speech & Debate Team and Mr. Marc Rischitelli, team coach, holding a few of the numerous awards won at the Annual Grand National Tournament of the National Catholic Forensic League.

with 28 students attending the National Catholic Forensic League's Grand National Tournament in Chicago, Illinois over Memorial Day weekend. The team exemplified the very best Shrewsbury has to offer, winning two coveted national team awards. Out of the 600 schools in attendance, SHS earned one of the five Eleanor E. Wright Awards for Excellence in Debate, and one of the five Daniel S. Masterson, Jr. Awards for Ex-

National Speech and Debate Association's National Tournament in Overland Park, Kansas. Hari Kumar (grade 10) placed in the top 60 in Extemporaneous Speaking. Senior, Nic Gerard placed 3rd place in the House of Representatives in Congressional Debate and won the Student Leadership Award. This was an award that Nic won based on his overall per-

CONTINUED, see page 7

A season of unity and achievement

CATHY LAROCHE
SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR,
SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

This spring, a new Unified Track and Field Team was formed at Shrewsbury High School. Through a partnership with the Massachusetts Special Olympics Foundation, Shrewsbury High School fielded a co-ed team that was comprised of athletes with disabilities and their non-disabled peers. Throughout the season, these sixteen teammates trained and competed together against other high school teams from surrounding towns. In keeping with the philosophy of Special Olympics, this created an opportunity for students at Shrewsbury High School to improve their physical fitness and skills while competing within an inclusive setting.

Our SHS student athletes trained and strived for per-

sonal bests in each of their events. In many cases, they began the season having never even tried these events previously. They were assisted and trained by their coaches, Mr. Mario Gonzales and Ms. Colleen Hall, along with

numerous volunteers from Shrewsbury High School who donated their time to teach our athletes how to improve their jumping, throwing, and running skills. Events for the Unified Track and Field meets

CONTINUED, see page 5



Pictured above are members of the Shrewsbury High School's Unified Track and Field team. Front row left to right: Ben King, Dominic Hawes, Elizabeth Ela, Shai Williams, Zaki Allam, Caroline Hardy. Back row left to right: Kelly Lopriore, Cecelia Bolon, Joshua Sargent, Joseph Jamros, Kerrie Shapiro, Keith Moyer, Meghan Whaley, Christian Barry. Not pictured: Tanner Fran- kian and Muman Sarwar.

Superintendent's Corner

CONTINUED from page 2

ongoing superb leadership of our town;

- our State Representative, Matt Beaton, for his active support of the override and his ongoing support of our schools through advocacy at the State House, as well as for his support of our programs, especially our community service learning initiative;

- the Community Supporters for Shrewsbury, the ballot committee who ran an extraordinary campaign to convince the community that a "Yes" vote was in the best interest of our town. Thank you to Campaign Co-Chairs Beth Casavant, Chris Coghlin, Joyce Danielson, Mel Gordon, Bob Holland, Ken Largess, and Clint Mills for their public support. A special thank you to the following campaign coordinators who gave countless hours of their time to run an extremely professional campaign: Campaign Manager, Beth Casavant; Campaign Strategists, Hannah Kane and Jason Palitsch; Data Manager, Suzanne Remington; Treasurer, Kathleen Keohane; and to the literally hundreds of volunteers whose hard work and dedication made a "Yes" vote possible;

- former Superintendent of Schools, John P. Collins, whose passion for doing the right thing for our students was contagious and whose contributions to the effort went miles above and beyond for someone who is allegedly "retired";

- our Central Office administrators and support staff, and our principals, for the hours upon hours of skillful work on the budget plan, reports, and presentations that helped demonstrate the facts of our situation to the community; and

- all of our School Department employees, whose professional-ism, expertise, and dedication to the well being of our students inspire me every day.

I am so pleased that a significant majority of voters have signaled their confidence in us. Regardless of how you voted, please know that we in the School Department will do our absolute best to be good stewards of the additional resources we are being provided through the override. With the Town firmly behind us and with the resources we need, I am very confident that we will build on our past successes in order to provide a truly world class education to our students.

As your superintendent, in the coming years I look forward to working with all of you to make our schools the very best they can be. As your fellow resident, I look forward to raising my family in a great town with great people. I couldn't be more pleased and proud to work and live in Shrewsbury.

Value

CONTINUED from page 1

teachers added to what we have been saying and broke the inertia of Shrewsbury being a “no override” town. The Community Supporters for Shrewsbury organized and put together a plan that was factual, effective and inclusive. Old and young, Democrat and Republican all came together with the shared commitment to make Shrewsbury an even better town and return our schools to the place of prominence that they (and our children) deserve. We can be proud that our town passed, by an overwhelming margin, a Proposition 2 ½ override that will fund our schools and other town agencies well into the future.

All of this would not have been possible without the focus, creativity and hard work of our Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Sawyer. When he was chosen in 2010 he had been promoted within the district through several roles including principal at both Floral Street School and Oak Middle School and assistant superintendent. He did not come to the

We are focused on bringing value to our students and our community.

job with direct experience as a superintendent elsewhere, and being sensitive that his administrative colleagues were taking a voluntary pay freeze, he accepted the job offer for less than the \$160,000-180,000 per year at which it had been advertised. Since that time, in addition to proving to us that he not only can do the job, but that he can lead under the most challenging of circumstances (and stick with us through thick and thin) he has gone with no raise in some years and voluntarily relinquished his sick time buy back provision (at a value of tens of thousands of dollars at the end of his career here). All of this was at a time when the demand for school superintendents has been rising and the salaries have also been going up.

Your School Committee reviewed the salaries of superintendents from surrounding districts. What we found was that salaries ranged from \$155,661 to \$200,000. When taken together with various benefits, his package (with a salary of \$161,670) was as much as \$41,000 below the highest of nearby districts that we surveyed. We felt that his outstanding performance

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A few back-to-school reminders

Keeping it all straight is no small task. Therefore, we’ve prepared a reference list for families to review and keep handy as the back-to-school deadline approaches.

Preschool - Grade 12

(Please note: links to information for many of these items can be found under the “Quicklinks” section on the main page of the district website at - <http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/>)

- ☐ School bus transportation registration and payment if applicable
- ☐ Summer reading lists
- ☐ Supply lists for grades K-8 are done individually by school and will be available in mid August on their home pages if not already posted. (High school teachers provide supply lists to students during the first week of school).
- ☐ Provide medication or other health information to school nurse if necessary.

- ☐ Emergency contact information review, update and approval in your Powerschool Parent Portal

Middle School - Grades 5-8

- ☐ Option selection for the 1:1 iPad Program and payment fee if applicable
- ☐ Activity fee payment (\$50 fee includes all sports/activities)

High School - Grades 9-12

- ☐ Activity fee payment (\$100 fee includes all clubs/activities)
- ☐ Fall sports requirements - Physical Exams must have been administered within 13 months of the start of the season. The Colonial ID card, athletic fee of \$290 and physical exams are due to the Athletic Office by Monday, August 11th. Drop off or mail to:
Jay Costa - Director of Athletics
Shrewsbury High School
64 Holden Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

And, more general information...

- ☞ Grades 5-12 participate in the Meal Magic on-line meal account program. Detailed information about making payments is available under the “Departments > Food Service” section on the main page of the district website.
- ☞ Free/reduced applications for those who may qualify for subsidized lunches should be filled out each year. Stop by the Central Office for a copy or apply on line. A link is available on the Food Service main page.
- ☞ Vacations and professional development days/early release days are listed on the calendar which is accessible from our website main page and the back page of this publication.
- ☞ Approximately one week before school starts bus routes for SPS students will be listed in the Powerschool Parent Portal. Private/vocational school students will receive a mailing with this information.

Thinking outside CONTINUED from page 2



The photo above taken by Savio Oliveira shows engineering students preparing their boats to go into Lake Quinsigamond.

well in water, which was one of the main problems.” Senior Shivani Kumar agrees: “not only did [the boats] have to be functional and hold our weight, but they also had to float and not get waterlogged.” Despite these sometimes frustrating, minor obstacles, these persistent students powered through the task, thinking critically and experimenting with flex

paint (among other materials) to minimize the absorption of water. They also determined the location of the water line on the boat to prevent the canoe from sinking into the lake.

On Friday, May 9th, 2014, the air buzzed with excitement as these students travelled to the Donahue Rowing Center for what they had all been waiting for: the cardboard boat regatta

on Lake Quinsigamond. At the boathouse, Mr. Wood organized a racing schedule for the boats. Not even the gray clouds looming in the sky – a harbinger of an imminent downpour – could tear down their high spirits. As Kumar exclaims, “The feel-

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The photo above taken by Shivani Kumar shows the S.S. Watermelon boat, the winner of the competition. This boat was designed and constructed by Shivani Kumar and her groupmates Mike Duhani, Parham Niaeipour, and T.J. Gray.

Collaborative art at Sherwood

PAMELA LEBLANC
DIRECTOR OF VISUAL ARTS

During a thirty day cycle with art teacher Deidre Kunar, students in grade 6 studied the work of Vincent Van Gogh, more specifically, his self-portraits. Students read about the artist, engaged in writing prompts based on observations made from his self-portraits, followed by class discussions. Student then created a self-portrait painted in the style Van Gogh



The self-portrait above painted in the Van Gogh style by Zoe Rudnick, grade 6, is one example that illustrates how students studied this artist and his work throughout their thirty day cycle.

with the objective for students to focus on color mixing and application, and to paint with visible brush strokes.

As an extension to the lesson, each student was given a 1”x1” square of a section of Van Gogh’s portrait

and a larger 7”x7” square of paper. Students were asked to paint exactly what they saw on the 1x1 square on to the larger square. As a class they then assembled

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The multipiece painting above in the Van Gogh style replicating the artist’s own self-portrait is the final result of the collaborative effort of grade 6 students from three different art classes taught by Ms. Deidre Kunar.

Value

CONTINUED from page 4

warranted a market adjustment and have signed an extension with a salary of \$180,000 per year (which is actually the top of what the committee was prepared to offer candidates in 2010). This puts our superintendent in the mid range of adjacent districts, and represents what we feel is an exceptional value for our town.

We are focused on bringing value to our students and our community. We feel that we are fielding the best team possible and the results speak for themselves. We have much to be proud of in Shrewsbury and much to be thankful for with our district leadership team.

A season of unity

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School - both on and off the field. Given the youth of our team this year, I expect the already high level of skill, camaraderie and sportsmanship to continue to increase in the coming seasons.”

The season culminated on Monday, May 19th, at the League Championship. Held at Lunenburg High School, over two hundred athletes from thirteen surrounding schools met for this final competition. Each student athlete was able to participate in at least one running event and one field event. For field events, students could choose their strongest or preferred event. The cool and drizzly weather could not put a damper on the enthusiasm and excitement of the participants or

“It’s fun. You can cheer for your team and players. It’s not about winning, it’s about sportsmanship, and trying to do your best. I would do it again next year, and I want to participate in ALL the events.”

the spectators. At the conclusion of each heat, athletes and partners were awarded ribbons for each of their events and many of them are looking forward to competing again in the future.

As for Shrewsbury High School, we are excited to be a partner with Special Olympics in this outstanding program and we are already looking forward to another season of inclusive athletics for our students. Judging from the feedback received from the participants, volunteers, and families, we are looking forward to a long partnership with Special Olympics and Unified Track and Field!

A season of unity

CONTINUED, from page 3

included: javelin, shot put, long jump, 100 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 800 meter dash, 4 X 100 meter relay and 4 X 400 meter relay. Members of our team tried all of these events, recorded their personal bests, and strived to improve their results at each meet.

After attending our first home meet, Mr. Todd Bazydlo, principal of Shrewsbury High School, reflected, “This is an outstanding event that has generated a lot of energy and enthusiasm for the students involved, but also for the school community at large. Special Olympics is a great organization that helps to provide equity and access to our students with disabilities. Through their inclusive practices, the Unified Programs put our core values into action. Quite frankly, I have never before seen this type of energy and enthusiasm at a track meet!”

Caroline, one of the members of the Shrewsbury High School team, indicated that

she “liked competing and meeting people from other schools”. In fact, this being her last year at Shrewsbury High School, she now plans to join Special Olympics next year so that she can continue competing with some of her friends! Her favorite event this year was the javelin and

“...Through their inclusive practices, the Unified Programs put our core values into action. Quite frankly, I have never before seen this type of energy and enthusiasm at a track meet!”

she earned a first place ribbon in that event at the League Championship.

Ben, another student athlete said, “It was fun because we got to travel to different schools and compete against other people. You also get to be with your friends.”

Joseph said, “It’s fun. You

can cheer for your team and players. It’s not about winning, it’s about sportsmanship, and trying to do your best. I would do it again next year, and I want to participate in ALL the events.”

Another participant, Meghan, said, “It gives students a chance to be proud of something. It’s an awesome opportunity because they’re competing against typical students from other schools, so there’s the element of competition. I want to do it again next year. I felt a great sense of pride in every one of the students I got to work with. And you could visibly see how happy they were when they finished each event, and you could tell they were proud of themselves.”

According to one of the coaches, Mr. Gonzales, “This unified team is a very rewarding experience for our athletes.

They take great pride in representing Shrewsbury High

CONTINUED, at right

Thinking outside

CONTINUED from page 4

ing of seeing your work come to life is incredible.” Indeed, weeks of diligence paid off, as students cheered on one another. The atmosphere was tense, as students, holding their breaths, witnessing their boats, the fruits of their labor, racing over the water. Would theirs be the winning canoe? Kumar and her groupmates Mike Duhani, Parham Niaepour, and T.J. Gray were the winning team, but everyone felt accomplished.

Shrewsbury’s engineering curriculum emphasizes experiential learning, in applying knowledge into something inextricably real, found beyond textbook pages. Students marvel at the idea that they can impact the future which is something that isn’t usually realized in the essays and lab reports completed in class. This project has given students a realistic glimpse at what it’s like to be an engineer, to tackle problems with fellow peers given limited resources. After all, these students are the leaders of the next generation, of the technological revolution; they are the scientists, the inventors, and most of all, the sources of inspiration for our community.

Collaborative art

CONTINUED from page 4

the squares together to create the one image. Students were thrilled with the results of their work. The works represented in this image are squares from three different 6th grade classes. This piece was on display at Shrewsbury Senior Center for the annual K-8 Art Festival.

- The following is a list of students involved in the Van Gogh Collaborative Art Project:
- Nikhita Alwarappan
 - Luis Arocho
 - Katelyn Buckley
 - Patrick Costigan
 - Anna Courtemanche
 - Jack Foley
 - Charlie Germanos
 - Colleen Keohane
 - Zoie Leo
 - Jack McGregor
 - Sreya Nimmagadda
 - Nicholas Ortoleva
 - Regena Ottaviano
 - Sophia Peng
 - Kyle Pierson
 - Channa Puhov
 - Kelsey Twining
 - Ava Wells

Retiring staff members recognized

BARBARA A. MALONE
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Eight educators completed their education careers after having served the children of Shrewsbury for a combined total of 228 years. This represents an average of almost 29 years of service in Shrewsbury for these retirees. Each of these talented educators is recognized for their commitment and dedication to the children of Shrewsbury. Listed below are the names, position, school and years of service to Shrewsbury. We wish them a happy, healthy, and relaxing retirement!



Beth Bedrosian
Ms. Bedrosian has served 23 years of her 30 years in Education at Shrewsbury High School as a Special Education Teacher.



Patricia Degon
With 36 years in education and 32 of those years served in Shrewsbury, Ms. Degon began as an elementary Physical Education Teacher at Coolidge Elementary and has served these last many years as the Director of Physical Education, Health and Family Consumer Science for the District.



Susan DiLeo
Ms. Dileo has served 30 years in education, with 25 years served in Shrewsbury. She began her career as a long-term substitute teacher at the High School and has been serving the last many years as an adjustment counselor at Oak Middle School.



Georgia Demarky-Anderson
Ms. Demarky-Anderson has served 38 years as an educator, with all 38 years devoted to Shrewsbury students. She is retiring as the Elementary Music Teacher at Floral and Paton Elementary schools.



Jane Goddard
With 25 years in education, 14 served in Shrewsbury, Ms Goddard is retiring as an English Language Arts Teacher from Oak Middle School.



Bonnie Narcisi
With 35 years in education and 16 of those years served in Shrewsbury, Ms. Narcisi has served those 16 years as the Director of Music and Theatre for the District.



Amy O'Leary
Ms. O'Leary is retiring after having attained 50 years as an educator and serving all of those 50 years in Shrewsbury. She has taught various Social Sciences courses, beginning her career as a Sixth Grade Teacher. Most of her career has been served teaching at the high school level. She is retiring as a Social Sciences Teacher from Shrewsbury High School.

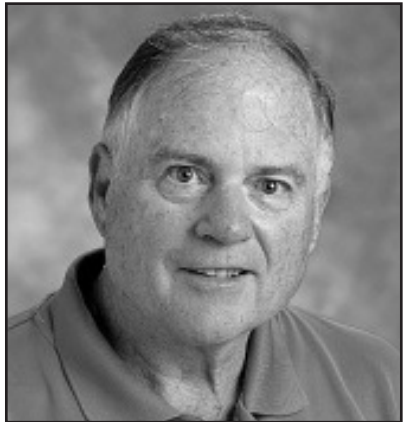


Mary Popp
Mary Popp has served 30 of her 47 year career in nursing in Shrewsbury with 29 of those years being the School Nurse at Spring Street School.

Additionally the district would like to recognize the following support, and paraprofessional staff members who retired at the end of the school year.



Elaine Fitzgibbon - Instructional Aide at SHS for 9 years



Robert Fitzgibbon II - Instructional Aide at SHS for 9 years



Colleen Nickerson - Child Specific Aide at Oak, SHS and Beal for 8 years



Anita Magat - 22 years as a District Technology Support Specialist for the elementary level.

A sixth year of success

HANNAH KANE
CELEBRATION IN THE GARDEN
HOST COMMITTEE MEMBER

The following is an excerpt from the official press release from the host committee of the “Celebration in the Garden”.

The skies cleared just in time for 6th Annual “Celebration in the Garden” benefiting the Shrewsbury Public Schools, held on Saturday, June 14th. Known throughout the community as “The Garden Party,” the event was once again hosted at the historic Fallon House, home of Heather Logrippo. The mood was festive as nearly 400 community leaders, neighbors and friends gathered together for the first time since the successful passage of the much needed operational override, to continue the tradition of raising funds to supplement the school budget. With this year’s \$60,000 goal being met, the Garden Party has raised \$205,000 in 6 years, which has been proportionally and equitably distributed among the nine public schools in the district to purchase instructional materials and technology enhancements essential to day-to-day teaching and learning at every level from preschool to high school.

The Garden Party would not be possible without the many local sponsors and individuals who offer their support year after year, including Presenting Sponsor 15-40 Connection – proudly presented by Columbia Tech, a Coghlin Company. Also providing various categories of support were George Abdien owner of Simon

Jewelers, Hair-Lines for Paul Mitchell Systems, Danielson Flowers, Dunkin Donuts, Grossman Development Group, Jack and Jeanette Howard, Rollgiving, James Hardie, David Hebert and Mindy McKenzie-Hebert, Webster Five Cents Savings Bank, Wheelabrator Shrewsbury, Jenny Boston, musical guest TENSION, Beaton Kane Construction, Expose Yourself PR!, Steven Greene of Glickman Kovago Construction, LLC, Five Rivers, Global Wines, Inc., Tom Fahs and Melissa Pride-Fahs, Shrewsbury Counseling

CONTINUED, at right



PHOTO COURTESY OF KARLA CINQUANTA

Pictured above are donation cards beautifully displayed on trees at the home of Heather Logrippo who graciously hosted the “Celebration in the Garden” for the sixth year in a row.

The final results are in...

There were winners all around! On one of the first warm and sunny days in April, nearly 400 runners and walkers gathered at Oak Middle School for the 6th Annual Road Scholars 5K Race and Fun Run. With Presenting Sponsors, Dunkin’ Donuts and Avidia Bank, graciously stepping up again and Supporting Sponsors, Arborist & Landscape Contractor, Darryl Henry; The Law Offices of Joseph J. Cariglia; and National Facility Services, also donating again this year, the event was successful in raising nearly \$7400 of much needed funds for the district. As in past years, these funds will be used to purchase technology and materials and to support innovative programs and activities in Shrewsbury Public Schools. The generosity of our Presenting and Supporting Sponsors, along with in-kind donations of beverages



Pictured above is Pat Smith, AVP/Market Manager for Presenting Sponsor Avidia Bank located at 23 Maple Avenue in Shrewsbury.

from Polar Beverages, numerous flavored pies from Table Talk Pies, fresh fruit and baked goods from Price Chopper and multiple flavors of Raw Revolution’s Organic Live Food Bars made for another year of good, healthy fun!

This event also relies on the support of the many volunteers who consistently and diligently offer help year after year to make this fundraiser a winner!



Presenting Sponsor Dunkin’ Donuts’ employees from the Maple Avenue location are pictured above. They are Adelina Baku, Gabby Kissman, Amanda Freitas, Glaucione Soares, Ashli Tefft, Forest Smith, Matthew Cadette, Eli Mena, Jairo Dossantos, Manager and Andrew Cadette, General Manager.

Hard work

CONTINUED from page 3

formance at the tournament. Additionally, Senior Abhi Gupta placed 6th place in the Senate in Congressional Debate. Overall, the Shrewsbury Team won the Excellence in Debate Award meaning that the team is top 20 in the nation for Debate.

Through competition in speech and debate, students earn membership and advanced degrees in the National Forensic League. The NFL is the nation’s oldest and largest speech and debate national honor society. It was established in 1925 with SHS being the founding member of the New England District in the 1950s. This year, we are proud to have 17 new NFL members, plus 78 advanced degrees earned.

The team looks forward to a continuation of this year’s success in the next school year!

A sixth year


CONTINUED from same page

Center, The Duprey Family, CocoBeni Confections, Christopher and Maria Munro, Aurora Exterior Painting, Daniels Insurance Agency Inc., Gene J. DeFeudis Family Foundation, Jim and Paula Buonomo, Lamoureux Pagano & Associates, The Law Offices of Joseph J. Cariglia, Mirick O’Connell Attorneys at Law, Pepper’s Fine Catering, Scizzors LLC, Weston & Sampson, Young Rembrandts of SW Boston and Central MA, All-Access Physical Therapy, Avidia Bank, Central One Federal Credit Union, Child Health Associates, Encore Party Rentals, EVO Dining, Heald & Chiampa Funeral Directors, John Barron/CVS Caremark PAC Program, Thrive Real Estate Specialists, Richard and Alison Ricker, Alison Kiefer, McLaren & Associates, CPAs PC, Polito Development Corporation, Shrewsbury Board of Selectmen, Shrewsbury Child Development Committee, Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union, Ski Ward Ski Area, The Harbor Law Group, Tina Bilazarian, Inc., Price Chopper, Wicked Good Cookies, Dean Park Grille, Blue Coast Coffee and Design Sponsor, Amy Kotsopoulos.

For more information about this event, to view the complete list of sponsors and donors, or to make a donation, please visit www.shrewsburygardenparty.com. You may also send a donation via check made payable to the Shrewsbury Public Schools Foundation, c/o Hannah Kane, 32 Main Circle, Shrewsbury, MA 01545. Please contact Hannah Kane at hannah@beatonkaneconstruction.com for more information.




PHOTO COURTESY OF KARLA CINQUANTA
Pictured above is the host committee’s “Welcome” sign greeting the over 400 guests.



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Direct Giving Campaign

Check out our website -
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For more information call 508-841-8400 or email:
colonialfund@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Shrewsbury Public Schools
2014-2015 School Year Calendar

Final
Approved 3-19-14

AUG/SEP 24 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

OCTOBER 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

DECEMBER 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

JANUARY 19 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

August/September

8/21 & 22 New Teachers' Orientation
8/25 Opening Program for Teachers/No School
8/26 Students Return/Full Day
8/29 Professional Development/No School
9/1 Labor Day/No School

October

10/7 Professional Development/Early Release
10/13 Columbus Day/No School

November

11/4 Parent Conferences/No School
11/11 Veterans Day/No School
11/26 - 28 Thanksgiving Vacation

December

12/24 - 1/2 December Vacation

January

1/13 Professional Development/Early Release
1/19 M.L. King Day/No School

February

2/16 Presidents Day/No School
2/17 - 2/20 Winter Vacation

March

3/3 Professional Development/Early Release

April

4/7 Professional Development/Early Release
4/20 Patriots Day/No School
4/21 - 24 Spring Vacation

May

5/5 Professional Development/Early Release
5/22 Last Day for Seniors
5/25 Memorial Day/No School
5/28 Graduation Day

June

6/9 Last Day for Kindergarten & Preschool
6/11 Last Day/Half Day for Students

FEBRUARY 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

MARCH 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

APRIL 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

MAY 20 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JUNE 9 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

0 snow days = 6/11 last day
1 snow day = 6/12 last day
2 snow days = 6/15 last day
3 snow days = 6/16 last day
4 snow days = 6/17 last day
5 snow days = 6/18 last day

Parent Conference Day: 11/4/14